

# Governor Carney and DNREC Secretary Garvin join first-time campers at Governor's Campout

**LAUREL** – Among the participants were young people and their families from the MERIT (Minority Engineering Regional Incentive Training), program, and Caesar Rodney and Laurel school districts. Sussex County legislators and town officials also attended.



Parks Director Ray Bivens, Governor John Carney and DNREC Secretary Shawn M. Garvin at Governor's Campout.

“Our goal this weekend is to encourage young people to connect with the outdoors,” said Secretary Garvin. “These outdoor adventures will start a lifetime journey of discovery for young people and their families of all that is available inside and outside our state parks. We hope the amazing experiences they will have will stay with them and become an experience they will not forget, encouraging them to return to reconnect with nature and the outdoors.”

The goal of Delaware's third annual Governor's Campout was to safely introduce children and their families to camping, the outdoors and outdoor recreational opportunities, particularly families who have not spent much time in DNREC's Delaware State Parks. The event was part of Great Outdoors Month, during which participants from across the nation camp out overnight.

The Governors Campout featured numerous activities including setting up tents and campsites, cooking demonstrations over campfires and grills, guided hikes, pontoon tours and kayak trips, and even the traditional camping treat – s'mores over a campfire.

The campout was designed to encourage participants to continue camping and making the outdoors part of their life/family traditions.

Vol. 47, No. 145